# SECOND REGULAR SESSION HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR

### SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

# SENATE BILL NOS. 872, 754 & 669

# 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Transportation April 13, 2006 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Bill Nos. 872, 754 & 669 Do Pass. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(26)(f).

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

3937L.06C

## AN ACT

To repeal sections 210.104, 210.106, 210.107, 302.302, 304.022, 304.070, 304.351, 304.580, and 307.178, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof ten new sections relating to the safe operation of motor vehicles to ensure the safety of highway workers, emergency workers, children, and other motorists, with penalty provisions and an effective date for a certain section.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 210.104, 210.106, 210.107, 302.302, 304.022, 304.070, 304.351,

- 2 304.580, and 307.178, RSMo, are repealed and ten new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be
- 3 known as sections 210.106, 302.302, 304.022, 304.070, 304.351, 304.580, 304.582, 304.585,
- 4 307.178, and 307.182, to read as follows:
  - 210.106. In no event shall failure to employ a child passenger restraint system required
- 2 by section [210.104] **307.182, RSMo,** provide the basis for a claim of civil liability or negligence
- 3 or contributory negligence of any person in any action for damages by reason of injury sustained
- 4 by a child; nor shall such failure to employ such child passenger restraint system be admissible
- 5 as evidence in the trial of any civil action.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

	302.302. 1. The director of revenue shall put into effect a point system for the
2	suspension and revocation of licenses. Points shall be assessed only after a conviction or
3	forfeiture of collateral. The initial point value is as follows:
4	(1) Any moving violation of a state law or county or municipal or
5	federal traffic ordinance or regulation not listed in this section, other than a
6	violation of vehicle equipment provisions or a court-ordered supervision as
7	provided in section 302.303
8	(except any violation of municipal stop sign ordinance where no accident is involved 1 point)
9	ordinance where no accident is involved 1 point)
10	(2) Speeding
11	In violation of a state law
12	In violation of a county or municipal ordinance
13	(3) Leaving the scene of an accident in violation of
14	section 577.060, RSMo
15	In violation of any county or municipal ordinance 6 points
16	(4) Careless and imprudent driving in violation of subsection 4 of
17	section 304.016, RSMo
18	In violation of a county or municipal ordinance
19	(5) Operating without a valid license in violation of subdivision (1) or (2)
20	of subsection 1 of section 302.020:
21	(a) For the first conviction
22	(b) For the second conviction
23	(c) For the third conviction 6 points
24	(6) Operating with a suspended or revoked license prior to restoration
25	of operating privileges
26	(7) Obtaining a license by misrepresentation
27	(8) For the first conviction of driving while in an intoxicated condition or
28	under the influence of controlled substances or drugs
29	(9) For the second or subsequent conviction of any of the following offenses
30	however combined: driving while in an intoxicated condition, driving under
31	the influence of controlled substances or drugs or driving with a blood alcohol
32	content of eight-hundredths of one percent or more by weight
33	(10) For the first conviction for driving with blood alcohol content
34	eight-hundredths of one percent or more by weight In violation of state law 8 points
35	In violation of a county or municipal ordinance or federal law or regulation 8 points

36	(11) Any felony involving the use of a motor vehicle
37	(12) Knowingly permitting unlicensed operator to operate a motor vehicle . 4 points
38	(13) For a conviction for failure to maintain financial responsibility pursuant
39	to county or municipal ordinance or pursuant to section 303.025, RSMo 4 points
40	(14) Endangerment of a highway worker in violation of section
41	304.585, RSMo 4 points
42	(15) Aggravated endangerment of a highway worker in violation of
43	section 304.585, RSMo
44	2. The director shall as provided in subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, assess

- 2. The director shall, as provided in subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section, assess an operator points for a conviction pursuant to subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020, when the director issues such operator a license or permit pursuant to the provisions of sections 302.010 to 302.340.
- 3. An additional two points shall be assessed when personal injury or property damage results from any violation listed in **subdivisions** (1) to (13) of subsection 1 of this section and if found to be warranted and certified by the reporting court.
- 4. When any of the acts listed in subdivision (2), (3), (4) or (8) of subsection 1 of this section constitutes both a violation of a state law and a violation of a county or municipal ordinance, points may be assessed for either violation but not for both. Notwithstanding that an offense arising out of the same occurrence could be construed to be a violation of subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section, no person shall be tried or convicted for more than one offense pursuant to subdivisions (8), (9) and (10) of subsection 1 of this section for offenses arising out of the same occurrence.
- 5. The director of revenue shall put into effect a system for staying the assessment of points against an operator. The system shall provide that the satisfactory completion of a driver-improvement program or, in the case of violations committed while operating a motorcycle, a motorcycle-rider training course approved by the [director of the department of public safety] **state highways and transportation commission**, by an operator, when so ordered and verified by any court having jurisdiction over any law of this state or county or municipal ordinance, regulating motor vehicles, other than a violation committed in a commercial motor vehicle as defined in section 302.700 or a violation committed by an individual who has been issued a commercial driver's license or is required to obtain a commercial driver's license in this state or any other state, shall be accepted by the director in lieu of the assessment of points for a violation pursuant to subdivision (1), (2) or (4) of subsection 1 of this section or pursuant to subsection 3 of this section. For the purposes of this subsection, the driver-improvement program shall meet or exceed the standards of the National Safety Council's eight-hour

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"Defensive Driving Course" or, in the case of a violation which occurred during the operation 72 of a motorcycle, the program shall meet the standards established by the [director of the 73 department of public safety state highways and transportation commission pursuant to 74 sections 302.133 to 302.138. The completion of a driver-improvement program or a motorcycle-rider training course shall not be accepted in lieu of points more than one time in any thirty-six-month period and shall be completed within sixty days of the date of conviction in 76 77 order to be accepted in lieu of the assessment of points. Every court having jurisdiction pursuant 78 to the provisions of this subsection shall, within fifteen days after completion of the 79 driver-improvement program or motorcycle-rider training course by an operator, forward a 80 record of the completion to the director, all other provisions of the law to the contrary 81 notwithstanding. The director shall establish procedures for record keeping and the 82 administration of this subsection.

304.022. 1. Upon the immediate approach of an emergency vehicle giving audible signal by siren or while having at least one lighted lamp exhibiting red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle or a flashing blue light authorized by section 307.175, RSMo, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as far as possible to the right of, the traveled portion of the highway and thereupon stop and remain in such position until such emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police or traffic officer.

- 2. Upon approaching a stationary emergency vehicle displaying lighted red or red and blue lights, the driver of every motor vehicle shall:
- (1) Proceed with caution and yield the right-of-way, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to that of the stationary vehicle, if on a roadway having at least four lanes with not less than two lanes proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle; or
- 15 (2) Proceed with due caution and reduce the speed of the vehicle, maintaining a safe 16 speed for road conditions, if changing lanes would be unsafe or impossible.
  - 3. [The motorman of every streetcar shall immediately stop such car clear of any intersection and keep it in such position until the emergency vehicle has passed, except as otherwise directed by a police or traffic officer.
    - 4.] An "emergency vehicle" is a vehicle of any of the following types:
  - (1) A vehicle operated by the state highway patrol, the state water patrol, the Missouri capitol police, or a state park ranger, those vehicles operated by enforcement personnel of the state highways and transportation commission, police or fire department, sheriff, constable or

- deputy sheriff, federal law enforcement officer authorized to carry firearms and to make arrests for violations of the laws of the United States, traffic officer or coroner or by a privately owned emergency vehicle company;
  - (2) A vehicle operated as an ambulance or operated commercially for the purpose of transporting emergency medical supplies or organs;
    - (3) Any vehicle qualifying as an emergency vehicle pursuant to section 307.175, RSMo;
  - (4) Any wrecker, or tow truck or a vehicle owned and operated by a public utility or public service corporation while performing emergency service;
  - (5) Any vehicle transporting equipment designed to extricate human beings from the wreckage of a motor vehicle;
  - (6) Any vehicle designated to perform emergency functions for a civil defense or emergency management agency established pursuant to the provisions of chapter 44, RSMo;
  - (7) Any vehicle operated by an authorized employee of the department of corrections who, as part of the employee's official duties, is responding to a riot, disturbance, hostage incident, escape or other critical situation where there is the threat of serious physical injury or death, responding to mutual aid call from another criminal justice agency, or in accompanying an ambulance which is transporting an offender to a medical facility;
  - (8) Any vehicle designated to perform hazardous substance emergency functions established pursuant to the provisions of sections 260.500 to 260.550, RSMo.
  - [5.] **4.** (1) The driver of any vehicle referred to in [subsection 4] **subsection 3** of this section shall not sound the siren thereon or have the front red lights or blue lights on except when such vehicle is responding to an emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected law violator, or when responding to, but not upon returning from, a fire.
    - (2) The driver of an emergency vehicle may:
    - (a) Park or stand irrespective of the provisions of sections 304.014 to 304.026;
- 49 (b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;
  - (c) Exceed the prima facie speed limit so long as the driver does not endanger life or property;
  - (d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.
  - (3) The exemptions granted to an emergency vehicle pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection shall apply only when the driver of any such vehicle while in motion sounds audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle as may be reasonably necessary, and when the vehicle

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- is equipped with at least one lighted lamp displaying a red light or blue light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle.
- [6.] **5.** No person shall purchase an emergency light as described in this section without furnishing the seller of such light an affidavit stating that the light will be used exclusively for emergency vehicle purposes.
  - [7.] **6.** Violation of this section shall be deemed a class [B] **A** misdemeanor.
- 304.070. 1. Any person who violates any of the provisions of subsections 1, 3, and 6 of section 304.050 is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. In addition, beginning July 1, 2005, the court may suspend the driver's license of any person who violates the provision of subsection 1 of section 304.050. If ordered by the court, the director shall suspend the driver's license for ninety days for a first offense of subsection 1 of section 304.050, and one hundred twenty days for a second or subsequent offense of subsection 1 of section 304.050. Any person who violates subsection 1 of section 304.050 where such violation results in the injury of any child shall be guilty of a class D felony. Any person who violates subsection 1 of section 304.050 where such violation causes the death of any child shall be guilty of a class C felony.
  - 2. Any appeal of a suspension imposed under subsection 1 of this section shall be a direct appeal of the court order and subject to review by the presiding judge of the circuit court or another judge within the circuit other than the judge who issued the original order to suspend the driver's license. The director of revenue's entry of the court-ordered suspension on the driving record is not a decision subject to review pursuant to section 302.311, RSMo. Any suspension of the driver's license ordered by the court under this section shall be in addition to any other suspension that may occur as a result of the conviction pursuant to other provisions of law.
- 304.351. 1. The driver of a vehicle approaching an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to a vehicle which has entered the intersection from a different highway, provided, however, there is no form of traffic control at such intersection.
  - 2. When two vehicles enter an intersection from different highways at approximately the same time, the driver of the vehicle on the left shall yield the right-of-way to the driver of the vehicle on the right. This subsection shall not apply to vehicles approaching each other from opposite directions when the driver of one of such vehicles is attempting to or is making a left turn.
- 3. The driver of a vehicle within an intersection intending to turn to the left shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction which is within the intersection or so close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard.

- 4. (1) The state highways and transportation commission with reference to state highways and local authorities with reference to other highways under their jurisdiction may designate through highways and erect stop signs or yield signs at specified entrances thereto, or may designate any intersection as a stop intersection or as a yield intersection and erect stop signs or yield signs at one or more entrances to such intersection.
  - [(1)] (2) Preferential right-of-way at an intersection may be indicated by stop signs or yield signs as authorized in this section:
  - (a) Except when directed to proceed by a police officer or traffic-control signal, every driver of a vehicle approaching a stop intersection, indicated by a stop sign, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic in the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection. After having stopped, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle which has entered the intersection from another highway or which is approaching so closely on the highway as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time when such driver is moving across or within the intersection.
  - (b) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall in obedience to the sign slow down to a speed reasonable to the existing conditions and, if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway. After slowing or stopping the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another highway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time such traffic is moving across or within the intersection.
  - 5. The driver of a vehicle about to enter or cross a highway from an alley, building or any private road or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on the highway to be entered.
  - 6. The driver of a vehicle intending to make a left turn into an alley, private road or driveway shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction when the making of such left turn would create a traffic hazard.
  - 7. The state highways and transportation commission or local authorities with respect to roads under their respective jurisdictions, on any section where construction or major maintenance operations are being effected, may fix a speed limit in such areas by posting of appropriate signs, and the operation of a motor vehicle in excess of such speed limit in the area so posted shall be deemed prima facie evidence of careless and imprudent driving and a violation of section 304.010.

- 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 304.361, violation of this section shall be deemed a class C misdemeanor.
  - 9. In addition to the penalty specified in subsection 8 of this section, any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this section in which the offender is found to have caused physical injury, there shall be assessed a penalty of up to two hundred dollars. The court may issue an order of suspension of such person's driving privilege for a period of thirty days.
  - 10. In addition to the penalty specified in subsection 8 of this section, any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this section in which the offender is found to have caused serious physical injury, there shall be assessed a penalty of up to five hundred dollars. The court may issue an order of suspension of such person's driving privilege for a period of ninety days.
  - 11. In addition to the penalty specified in subsection 8 of this section, any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this section in which the offender is found to have caused a fatality, there shall be assessed a penalty of up to one thousand dollars. The court may issue an order of suspension of such person's driving privilege for a period of six months.
  - 12. As used in subsections 9 and 10 of this section, the terms "physical injury" and "serious physical injury" shall have the meanings ascribed to them in section 556.061, RSMo.
  - 13. For any court-ordered suspension under subsection 9, 10, or 11 of this section, the director of the department shall impose such suspension as set forth in the court order. The order of suspension shall include the name of the offender, the offender's driver's license number, social security number, and the effective date of the suspension. Any appeal of a suspension imposed under subsection 9, 10, or 11 of this section shall be a direct appeal of the court order and subject to review by the presiding judge of the circuit court or another judge within the circuit other than the judge who issued the original order to suspend the driver's license. The director of revenue's entry of the court-ordered suspension on the driving record is not a decision subject to review under section 302.311, RSMo. Any suspension of the driver's license ordered by the court under this section shall be in addition to any other suspension that may occur as a result of the conviction under other provisions of law.
  - 304.580. [1.] As used in [this section] **sections 304.582 and 304.585**, the term "construction zone" or "work zone" means any area upon or around any highway as defined in section 302.010, RSMo, which is visibly marked by the department of transportation or a

- contractor or subcontractor performing work for the department of transportation as an area where construction, maintenance, incident removal, or other work is temporarily occurring. The term "work zone" or "construction zone" also includes the lanes of highway leading up to the area upon which an activity described in this subsection is being performed, beginning at the point where appropriate signs [directing motor vehicles to merge from one lane into another lane] or traffic control devices are posted or placed. The terms "worker" or "highway worker" as used in sections 304.582 and 304.585 shall mean any person that is working in a "construction zone" or "work zone", or any employee of the department of transportation that is performing duties under the department's motorist assist program on a state highway or the right-of-way of a state highway.
  - [2. Upon a conviction or a plea of guilty by any person for a moving violation as defined in section 302.010, RSMo, or any offense listed in section 302.302, RSMo, the court shall assess a fine of thirty-five dollars in addition to any other fine authorized to be imposed by law, if the offense occurred within a construction zone or a work zone.
  - 3. Upon a conviction or plea of guilty by any person for a speeding violation pursuant to either section 304.009 or 304.010, or a passing violation pursuant to subsection 6 of this section, the court shall assess a fine of two hundred fifty dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law, if the offense occurred within a construction zone or a work zone and at the time the speeding or passing violation occurred there was any person in such zone who was there to perform duties related to the reason for which the area was designated a construction zone or work zone. However, no person assessed an additional fine pursuant to this subsection shall also be assessed an additional fine pursuant to subsection 2 of this section, and no person shall be assessed an additional fine pursuant to this subsection if no signs have been posted pursuant to subsection 4 of this section.
  - 4. The penalty authorized by subsection 3 of this section shall only be assessed by the court if the department of transportation or contractor performing work for the department of transportation has erected signs upon or around a construction or work zone which are clearly visible from the highway and which state substantially the following message: "Warning: \$250 fine for speeding or passing in this work zone".
  - 5. During any day in which no person is present in a construction zone or work zone established pursuant to subsection 3 of this section to perform duties related to the purpose of the zone, the sign warning of additional penalties shall not be visible to motorists. During any period of two hours or more in which no person is present in such zone on a day in which persons have been or will be present to perform duties related to the reason for which the area was designated as a construction zone or work zone, the sign warning of additional penalties

- shall not be visible to motorists. The department of transportation or contractor performing work for the department of transportation shall be responsible for compliance with provisions of this subsection. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit warning or traffic control signs necessary for public safety in the construction or work zone being visible to motorists at all times.
  - 6. The driver of a motor vehicle may not overtake or pass another motor vehicle within a work zone or construction zone. This subsection applies to a construction zone or work zone located upon a highway divided into two or more marked lanes for traffic moving in the same direction and for which motor vehicles are instructed to merge from one lane into another lane by an appropriate sign erected by the department of transportation or a contractor performing work for the department of transportation. Violation of this subsection is a class C misdemeanor.
  - 7. This section shall not be construed to enhance the assessment of court costs or the assessment of points pursuant to section 302.302, RSMo.]
  - 304.582. 1. Upon the first conviction or plea of guilty by any person for a moving violation as defined in section 302.010, RSMo, or any offense listed in section 302.302, RSMo, the court shall assess a fine of thirty-five dollars in addition to any other fine authorized to be imposed by law, if the offense occurred within a construction zone or a work zone. Upon a second or subsequent such conviction or plea of guilty, the court shall assess a fine of seventy-five dollars in addition to any other fine authorized to be imposed by law.
  - 2. Upon the first conviction or plea of guilty by any person for a speeding violation under either section 304.009 or 304.010, or a passing violation under subsection 4 of this section, the court shall assess a fine of two hundred fifty dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law if the offense occurred within a construction zone or a work zone and at the time the speeding or passing violation occurred there was any highway worker in such zone. Upon a second or subsequent such conviction or plea of guilty, the court shall assess a fine of three hundred dollars in addition to any other fine authorized by law. However, no person assessed an additional fine under this subsection shall also be assessed an additional fine under this subsection 3 of this section.
  - 3. The penalty authorized by subsection 2 of this section shall only be assessed by the court if the department of transportation or a contractor or subcontractor performing work for the department of transportation has erected signs upon or around a construction zone or work zone which are clearly visible from the highway and which state substantially

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- the following message: "Warning: Minimum \$250 fine for speeding or passing in this work zone when workers are present.".
  - 4. The driver of a motor vehicle may not overtake or pass another motor vehicle within a work zone or construction zone as provided in this subsection. Violation of this subsection is a class C misdemeanor.
  - (1) This subsection applies to a construction zone or work zone located upon a highway divided into two or more marked lanes for traffic moving in the same direction and for which motor vehicles are instructed to merge from one lane into another lane and not pass by appropriate signs or traffic control devices erected by the department of transportation or a contractor or subcontractor performing work for the department of transportation.
  - (2) This subsection also prohibits the operator of a motor vehicle from passing or attempting to pass another motor vehicle in a work zone or construction zone located upon a two-lane highway when highway workers or equipment are working and when appropriate signs or traffic control devices have been erected by the department of transportation or a contractor or subcontractor performing work for the department of transportation.
  - 5. The additional fines imposed by this section shall not be construed to enhance the assessment of court costs or the assessment of points under section 302.302, RSMo.
  - 304.585. 1. A person shall be deemed to commit the offense of "endangerment of a highway worker" upon conviction for any of the following when the offense occurs within a "construction zone" or "work zone", as defined in section 304.580:
    - (1) Exceeding the posted speed limit by fifteen miles per hour or more;
    - (2) Passing in violation of subsection 4 of section 304.582;
  - (3) Failure to stop for a work zone flagman or failure to obey traffic control devices erected in the construction zone or work zone for purposes of controlling the flow of motor vehicles through the zone;
  - (4) Driving through or around a work zone by any lane not clearly designated to motorists for the flow of traffic through or around the work zone;
- 11 (5) Physically assaulting, or attempting to assault, or threatening to assault a 12 highway worker in a construction zone or work zone, with a motor vehicle or other 13 instrument;
- 14 (6) Intentionally striking, moving, or altering barrels, barriers, signs, or other 15 devices erected to control the flow of traffic to protect workers and motorists in the work

zone for a reason other than avoidance of an obstacle, an emergency, or to protect the health and safety of an occupant of the motor vehicle or of another person; or

- (7) Committing any of the following offenses for which points may be assessed under section 302.302, RSMo:
  - (a) Leaving the scene of an accident in violation of section 577.060, RSMo;
  - (b) Careless and imprudent driving in violation of subsection 4 of section 304.016;
- (c) Operating without a valid license in violation of subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 1 of section 302.020, RSMo;
  - (d) Operating with a suspended or revoked license;
- (e) Driving while in an intoxicated condition or under the influence of controlled substances or drugs or driving with an excessive blood alcohol content;
  - (f) Any felony involving the use of a motor vehicle.
- 2. Upon conviction or a plea of guilty for committing the offense of "endangerment of a highway worker" under subsection 1 of this section if no injury or death to a highway worker resulted from the offense, in addition to any other penalty authorized by law, the person shall be subject to a fine of not more than one thousand dollars and shall have eight points assessed to his or her driver's license under section 302.302, RSMo, and shall be subject to the provisions of section 302.304, RSMo, regarding the suspension of the person's license and driving privileges.
- 3. A person shall be deemed to commit the offense of "aggravated endangerment of a highway worker" upon conviction or a plea of guilty for any offense under subsection 1 of this section when such offense occurs in a construction zone or work zone as defined in section 304.580 and results in the injury or death of a highway worker. Upon conviction or a plea of guilty for committing the offense of aggravated endangerment of a highway worker, in addition to any other penalty authorized by law, the person shall be subject to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars if the offense resulted in injury to a highway worker and ten thousand dollars if the offense resulted in death to a highway worker. In addition, such person shall have twelve points assessed to their driver's license under section 302.302, RSMo, and shall be subject to the provisions of section 302.304, RSMo, regarding the revocation of the person's license and driving privileges.
- 4. Except for the offense established under subdivision (6) of subsection 1 of this section, no person shall be deemed to commit the offense of endangerment of a highway worker except when the act or omission constituting the offense occurred when one or more highway workers were in the construction zone or work zone.

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- 5. No person shall be cited or convicted for endangerment of a highway worker or aggravated endangerment of a highway worker, for any act or omission otherwise constituting an offense under subsection 1 of this section, if such act or omission resulted in whole or in part from mechanical failure of the person's vehicle or from the negligence of another person or a highway worker.
- 307.178. 1. As used in this section, the term "passenger car" means every motor vehicle designed for carrying ten persons or less and used for the transportation of persons; except that, the term "passenger car" shall not include motorcycles, motorized bicycles, motor tricycles, and trucks with a licensed gross weight of twelve thousand pounds or more.
- 2. Each driver, except persons employed by the United States Postal Service while performing duties for that federal agency which require the operator to service postal boxes from their vehicles, or which require frequent entry into and exit from their vehicles, and front seat passenger of a passenger car manufactured after January 1, 1968, operated on a street or highway in this state, and persons less than eighteen years of age operating or riding in a truck, as defined 10 in section 301.010, RSMo, on a street or highway of this state shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt that meets federal National Highway, Transportation and Safety Act 12 requirements[; except that, a child less than four years of age shall be protected as required in section 210.104, RSMol. No person shall be stopped, inspected, or detained solely to determine compliance with this subsection. The provisions of this section and section 307.182 shall not be applicable to persons who have a medical reason for failing to have a seat belt fastened about their body, nor shall the provisions of this section and section 307.182 be applicable to persons while operating or riding a motor vehicle being used in agricultural work-related activities. Noncompliance with this subsection shall not constitute probable cause for violation of any other provision of law. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the transporting of children under sixteen years of age, as provided in section 307.182.
  - 3. Each driver of a motor vehicle transporting a child [four years of age or more, but] less than sixteen years of age[,] shall secure the child in a properly adjusted and fastened [safety belt] restraint under section 307.182.
  - 4. In any action to recover damages arising out of the ownership, common maintenance or operation of a motor vehicle, failure to wear a safety belt in violation of this section shall not be considered evidence of comparative negligence. Failure to wear a safety belt in violation of this section may be admitted to mitigate damages, but only under the following circumstances:
  - (1) Parties seeking to introduce evidence of the failure to wear a safety belt in violation of this section must first introduce expert evidence proving that a failure to wear a safety belt contributed to the injuries claimed by plaintiff;

- (2) If the evidence supports such a finding, the trier of fact may find that the plaintiff's failure to wear a safety belt in violation of this section contributed to the plaintiff's claimed injuries, and may reduce the amount of the plaintiff's recovery by an amount not to exceed one percent of the damages awarded after any reductions for comparative negligence.
- 5. Except as otherwise provided for in section 307.182, each [driver] person who violates the provisions of subsection 2 [or 3] of this section is guilty of an infraction for which a fine not to exceed ten dollars may be imposed. All other provisions of law and court rules to the contrary notwithstanding, no court costs shall be imposed on any person due to a violation of this section. In no case shall points be assessed against any person, pursuant to section 302.302, RSMo, for a violation of this section.
- 6. The [department of public safety] **state highways and transportation commission** shall initiate and develop a program of public information to develop understanding of, and ensure compliance with, the provisions of this section. The [department of public safety] **commission** shall evaluate the effectiveness of this section and shall include a report of its findings in the annual evaluation report on its highway safety plan that it submits to NHTSA and FHWA pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 402.
- 7. If there are more persons than there are seat belts in the enclosed area of a motor vehicle, then the [driver and passengers are not in violation of this section.] passengers who are unable to wear seat belts shall sit in the area behind the front seat of the motor vehicle unless the motor vehicle is designed only for a front-seated area. This subsection shall not apply to passengers who are accompanying a driver of a motor vehicle who is licensed under section 302.178, RSMo.

### 307.182. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

- (1) "Child booster seat", a seating system which meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 571.213, as amended, that is designed to elevate a child to properly sit in a federally approved safety belt system;
- (2) "Child passenger restraint system", a seating system which meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. 571.213, as amended, and which is either permanently affixed to a motor vehicle or is affixed to such vehicle by a safety belt or a universal attachment system;
  - (3) "Driver", a person who is in actual physical control of a motor vehicle.
- 2. Every driver transporting a child under the age of sixteen years shall be responsible, when transporting such child in a motor vehicle operated by that driver on the streets or highways of this state, for providing for the protection of such child as follows:

- 13 (1) Children less than four years of age, regardless of weight, shall be secured in 14 a child passenger restraint system appropriate for that child;
  - (2) Children weighing less than forty pounds, regardless of age, shall be secured in a child passenger restraint system appropriate for that child;
  - (3) Children at least four years of age but less than eight years of age, who also weigh at least forty pounds but less than eighty pounds, and who are also less than four feet, nine inches tall, shall be secured in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat appropriate for that child;
  - (4) Children at least eighty pounds or children more than four feet, nine inches in height shall be secured by a vehicle safety belt or booster seat appropriate for that child.
  - (5) A child who otherwise would be required to be secured in a booster seat may be transported in the back seat of a motor vehicle while wearing only a lap belt if the back seat of the motor vehicle is not equipped with a combination lap and shoulder belt for booster seat installation.

This subsection shall only apply to the use of a child passenger restraint system or vehicle safety belt for children less than sixteen years of age being transported in a motor vehicle.

- 3. Any driver who violates subdivision (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 2 of this section is guilty of an infraction and, upon conviction, may be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars and court costs. Any driver who violates subdivision (4) of subsection 2 of this section shall be subject to the penalty in subsection 5 of section 307.178. If a driver receives a citation for violating subdivision (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 2 of this section, the charges shall be dismissed or withdrawn if the driver prior to or at his or her hearing provides evidence of acquisition of a child passenger restraint system or child booster seat which is satisfactory to the court or the party responsible for prosecuting the driver's citation.
- 4. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any public carrier for hire. The provisions of this section shall not apply to students four years of age or older who are passengers on a school bus as defined in section 301.010, RSMo.
- 5. The highways and transportation commission shall initiate and develop a program of public information to develop understanding of, and ensure compliance with, the provisions of this section.
- [210.104. 1. Every person transporting a child under the age of four years shall be responsible, when transporting such child in a motor vehicle operated by that person on the streets or highways of this state, for providing for the protection of such child. Such child shall be protected by a child passenger restraint system approved by the department of public safety.

6	2. Any person who violates this section is guilty of an infraction and,
7	upon conviction, may be punished by a fine of not more than twenty-five dollars
8	and court costs.
9	3. The provisions of sections 210.104 to 210.107 shall not apply to any
10	public carrier for hire.]
11	
	[210.107. The department of public safety shall initiate and develop a
2	program of public information to develop understanding of, and ensure
3	compliance with the provisions of sections 210.104 to 210.107. The department
4	of public safety shall, within thirty days of September 28, 1983, promulgate
5	standards for the performance, design, and installation of passenger restraint
6	systems for children under four years of age in accordance with federal motor
7	vehicle safety standards and shall approve those systems which meet such
8	standards. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of
9	sections 210.104 to 210.107 shall become effective unless it has been
10	promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024, RSMo.]
11	
	Section B. The repeal and reenactment of section 304.351 shall become effective January
2	1, 2007.
	Bill

